

MLN Matters Number: MM3419

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3419

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Effective Date: April 1, 2004

Related CR Transmittal #: R106OTN

Implementation Date: September 24, 2004

MMA Drug Pricing Update – Payment Limit for J9045 (Carboplatin injection) and J9310 (Rituximab Cancer Treatment)

Note: This article was revised to contain web addresses that conform to the new CMS web site and to show they are now MLN Matters articles. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers

Provider Action Needed

Affected providers are advised that Medicare carriers are updating the payment limits (listed in this article) for HCPCS drug code J9045 (Carboplatin injection) and J9310 (Rituximab cancer treatment), effective with dates of service on or after April 1, 2004, and on or before December 31, 2004.

Background

The payment limits for Carboplatin injection and Rituximab cancer treatment, Medicare Part B drugs meeting the exceptions process described in Section 303(b) of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) are being updated for claims with such services provided between April 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, inclusive. The old and new rates for J9045 (Carboplatin injection) and J9310 (Rituximab cancer treatment), with the new rate for dates of service on or after April 1, 2004 and on or before December 31, 2004 are as follows where payment is not made on a cost or prospective payment basis:

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| Statu s | HCPCS | Short Description | AWP % | 2004 Payment Limit for Drugs (other than ESRD drugs separately billed by independent ESRD Facilities and drugs infused through DME) |
|------------|-------|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| OLD | J9045 | Carboplatin injection | 88 | \$137.54 |
| NEW | J9045 | Carboplatin injection | 86 | \$135.15 |
| OLD | J9310 | Rituximab cancer treatment | 81 | \$427.28 |
| NEW | J9310 | Rituximab cancer treatment | 83 | \$438.38 |

The payment limits for J9045 and J9310 supercede the payment limits published in Change Request (CR) 3161 (Transmittal 119) dated March 15, 2004. Note that the absence or presence of a HCPCS code and its associated payment limit does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug.

Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is September 24, 2004.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed by going to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R106OTN.pdf> on the CMS web site.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS web site.

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